

10
Roxbury Sept. 20 - 1840 -

My dear Old Friend -

I hope as usual you have this day began a Letter to me for so it has hapend very often that we both began to write about the same time. But what a change in the public since I wrote you last - we feel sure here that the question respecting our next President is settled Harrison is certain of being our next - Van Buren must retire and especially since the State of Maine has given him such a kick. This was very unexpected to most of us - the joy we feel on this occasion is more than can be expressed - we hope that New York will do as well as we have - But the Albany Paper says as by his statement which is copied in our papers - that even if New York and Pennsylvania with Virginia all go for Van Buren they cannot change the Vote - and yet we are morally sure of many votes from all those States - so that we consider the question as settled - but will not relax in our exertions untill March next - and think my friend what a Triumph - and what a joyful day it will be to us all to have our Country once more Free - I was in hope that you would have been on here on the 10th of Sep^r - I think you would have been convinced that there was spirit enough in Old Massachusetts yet to do her duty on any occasion - A Friend of mine in Boston after passing down Washington St to State street and finding them all crowded - thought he would go to the Common to get a little fresh Air - Boston Common is ^{contains} about 45 Acres - and that appeared as though you might walk on the heads of the people - so that he exclaimed that it was the first time he ever saw forty five Acres of Men - in fact there that was the only way that they could be estimated - My feeble health would not admit of my going into such a crowd - and tarried at home - wishing every moment to see you and some of your Family stop in - Roxbury provided for a vast number more friends than

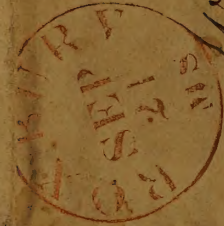
came - Mr. Tearing's house made a good display - he had
a very pretty Band of Music playing on his front piazza
morning & evening - But stop what am I doing attempting
to give you a description of the day - as well might
I give you a description of the stars in a bright night
with their number - I had no idea that the Population
of our Country was one half what I now find it is -
we will show such a vote here on the 9th of November next
as never was shown in this section before - Socafoco appears
here as it should every where so disgraceful a name - there
is but a very few who will answer to it except our Customs
House hunters and they are despised by most people -
they work very hard and well they may as they well
know their fate in March next - but they have been
very industrious while in Office with high salaries
and nothing to do but go round collecting for themselves
But thank God their race is nearly run - I must
beg you not to think me too zealous - I feel as if every
man must do all he can - and as I am not yet eighty
- two years old - and well remember the exertions we
had to make in 1875 - I cannot cool my zeal in the
great cause - untill I see it finished - especially when
the end appears so near - I have a Neighbour next
me who belongs to New Hampshire - he has lately returned
from home and tells me he is as sure of New Hampshire
as he wishes to be for Harrison - thus the whole of the
New England State will be united in the best man as our
President - I could write all day on this subject - but
the Fries are so busy that I cannot keep my Pen where
it should be - therefore will defer the rest untill they with
Vanburen is done troubling us - make my best respects
to all your family and friends - and write me soon -

Respectfully Yours - J. H. Newell

So zealous are our friends here that a ~~Man~~ ^{Man} who was working on my
Farm who belonged to Maine - traveled home to vote and did vote - and
returned again losing one week's work for the sake of doing his duty -
such a spirit will accomplish most any thing -
Be up and doing is our motto - you have our best wishes
and most fervent prayers -

Mr. Adams is now here and desires me to say that he has
a number of seedling Elms Trees of a fine growth in
his garden which he will early in October take up
and pack and send to you - they are from one to two feet
high - very thrifty young Trees - I shall look after
them for you -

to
turn



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